

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

JOHN V. BERNARDI ET AL.

SERIAL NUMBER:

EXAMINER:

FILED:

GROUP ART UNIT:

FOR: SUBSTRATE WITH MEMBRANE SEAM PLATES FIXED  
THEREON FOR PRECISE PLACEMENT OF SEAM PLATES  
ON ROOF DECKING ASSEMBLIES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313-1450

SIR:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, and the prosecution thereof before the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby desires to make of record, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.97, the following **PRIOR ART** of which Applicant is aware and which is also listed upon the attached **PTO FORM 1449**:

Information Disclosure Statement  
SUBSTRATE WITH MEMBRANE SEAM PLATES FIXED THEREON FOR  
PRECISE PLACEMENT OF SEAM PLATES ON ROOF DECKING ASSEMBLIES  
John V. Bernardi et al.

|                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Bruins et al.    | 6,478,209          |
| Hansen           | 6,378,197          |
| Hulsey           | 6,250,034          |
| Hubbard et al.   | 6,187,122          |
| Hubbard et al.   | 6,055,786          |
| Hubbard          | 6,004,645          |
| Metzer et al.    | 5,918,439          |
| Poorman          | 5,724,747          |
| Hasan            | 5,711,116          |
| Kehoe            | 5,546,671          |
| Rathgeber et al. | 5,469,671          |
| Wall             | 5,230,158          |
| Medwed           | 5,125,552          |
| Han              | 5,056,234          |
| Williams         | 5,018,279          |
| Murphy           | 4,945,699          |
| Murphy           | 4,834,828          |
| Sweatman         | 4,679,325          |
| Sedlock          | 4,301,596          |
| Troyer et al.    | 4,149,320          |
| Medford et al.   | US 2001/0034954    |
| Bruins et al.    | US 2001/0030138    |
| Brock            | EUROPEAN 0 347 403 |
| Hungarter        | PCT WO 96/30609    |

The present invention, in connection with which the present patent application is being prosecuted, is directed toward a seam plate or membrane plate implement assembly which comprises a support strip or substrate upon which a

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plurality of membrane plates or seam plates are fixedly mounted at predeterminedly spaced positions so as to effectively correspond to the transverse spacing defined between the crest portions of an underlying corrugated roof decking substructure. In this manner, when the support strip or substrate is placed upon the environmental membranes covering the insulation slab or panel of the roof decking assembly, and once a first or leading one of the seam plates or membrane plates is aligned with one of the crest portions of the underlying roof decking substructure, the proper alignment of the remaining seam plates or membrane plates with respect to the other crest portions of the underlying roof decking substructure is inherently ensured. In this manner, the proper and secure fixation of the bolt fasteners, associated with the seam plates or membrane plates, within the crest portions of the underlying roof decking substructure is likewise ensured so as to properly maintain the environmental membranes secured atop the insulation slab or panel. The substrate can likewise be used in conjunction with non-corrugated roof decking assemblies so as to locate the seam plates thereon and thereby likewise provide the environmental membranes with sufficient uplifting wind force resistance. The substrate can comprise a thermoplastic material or mesh fabric, it can have a C-shaped or V-shaped cross-sectional configuration, and the seam plates can be secured upon the substrate by various

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means, such as, for example, heat-seal means, adhesive bonding, and foldable prongs.

While the cited **PRIOR ART** is relevant to the present invention in that the **PRIOR ART** discloses conventional seam plates or membrane plates, techniques for attaching the environmental membranes to underlying substrates, and various building industry measuring devices, it is submitted that none of **PRIOR ART** patent publications cited above disclose the particularly noted features of the present invention, and therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the examiner should merely consider such **PRIOR ART** in its proper perspective, make the same officially of record, and proceed with the completion of the examination of this patent application.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**SCHWARTZ & WEINRIEB**



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Steven W. Weinrieb  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 26,520  
(703) 415-1250

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|---|--------------------|--|--|------------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
|   |                    |  |  |                  |                | Sheet <u>1</u> .           | Of <u>1</u> . |
| <b>FORM PTO-1449</b><br><br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b><br><b>CITATION BY APPLICANT</b> |                    |  | Attorney Docket Number:<br><b>71-839-1</b>   |                  | Serial Number: |                            |               |
|   |                    |  | Applicant:<br><b>John V. Bernardi et al.</b> |                  |                |                            |               |
|   |                    |  | Filing Date:                                 |                  | Group:         |                            |               |
| <b>UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
| Exr<br>Init   | Document<br>Number | Date                                       | Name   | Class            | Subclass       | Filing Date If Appropriate |               |
|   | 6,478,209          | 11-02                                      | Bruins et al.                                |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 6,378,197          | 04-02                                      | Hansen                                       |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 6,250,034          | 06-01                                      | Hulsey                                       |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 6,187,122          | 02-01                                      | Hubbard et al.                               |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 6,055,786          | 05-00                                      | Hubbard et al.                               |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 6,004,645          | 12-99                                      | Hubbard                                      |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,918,439          | 07-99                                      | Metzer et al.                                |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,724,747          | 03-98                                      | Poorman                                      |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,711,116          | 01-98                                      | Hasan  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,546,671          | 08-96                                      | Kehoe  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,469,671          | 11-95                                      | Rathgeber et al.                             |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,230,158          | 07-93                                      | Wall   |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,125,552          | 06-92                                      | Medwed                                       |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,056,234          | 10-91                                      | Han  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 5,018,279          | 05-91                                      | Williams                                     |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 4,945,699          | 08-90                                      | Murphy                                       |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 4,834,828          | 05-89                                      | Murphy                                       |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 4,679,325          | 07-87                                      | Sweatman                                     |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 4,301,596          | 11-81                                      | Sedlock                                      |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | 4,149,320          | 04-79                                      | Troyer et al.                                |                  |                |                            |               |
| <b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | Document<br>Number | Date                                       | Country                                      | Class            | Subclass       | Translation                |               |
|   |                    |  |  |                  |                | Yes                        | No            |
|   | 0 347 403          | 12-89                                      | EUROPEAN                                     |                  |                |                            |               |
| <b>WO</b>   | 96/30609           | 10-96                                      | WIPO   |                  |                |                            |               |
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|   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
| <b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b>  |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | <b>A</b>           | US 2001/0034954 A1 - 11-01- Medford et al. |  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   | <b>B</b>           | US 2001/0030138 A1 - 10-01 - Bruins et al. |  |                  |                |                            |               |
|   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
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|   |                    |  |  |                  |                |                            |               |
| Examiner:   |                    |  |  | Date Considered: |                |                            |               |